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THE MUSKET

LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

May 2005 Volume 5; Issue 6

All-Night Graduation Party Design Selected

By Hannah Hsieh

The winner of the T-Shirt Design Contest for the 2005 All-Night Graduation Party is LHS senior Yelena Cvek. The theme of this year's party, held Sunday June 5 in the LHS field house, is "Takeoff..." The t-shirt design is used on party invitations, tickets, and publicity posters.

Cvek's art is featured on both the front and back of the t-shirt, and it is the first year that a student has won the contest for both sides of the shirt. Cvek also produced the winning design for the t-shirt pocket in 2003 and 2004.

MUSKET EXCLUSIVE

SENIOR DESTINATIONS 2005

PAGES 4 - 5

Dear Dr. Jones,

In the early morning of May 1st, 2005, thirteen seniors descended upon LHS in a show of class spirit to conduct a prank. Cardboard sheets with approximately **7,000-8,000 two-inch toy soldiers were placed in the middle of the quad**. On one side a flag flew that said '05', on the other a flag that said 'The Man'. Alongside this set up, a note was left informing the administration that this was in no means an attack or response to anything or anyone at the school, and that it would be cleaned up by the students who set it up. It was a symbol of the unity of the senior class as we leave the enclosed environment of high school life and prepare to take the world head on as we begin our independent futures. ... PAGE 3

GSA members Molly Siegel, Bobbie Beyer, and Eva Rosenberg hold a rainbow flag in response to adults protesting the annual Day of Silence for LGBT students.

Day of Silence Sparks Intense Opposition

By Eva Rosenberg

Red t-shirts, a table in the cafeteria, and hundreds of silent students? It must be LHS's annual Day of Silence. On April 13, 305 students took a vow of silence "to recognize and protest the discrimination and harassment - in effect, the silencing - experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students and their allies," according to the purpose statement on the Day of Silence (DOS) website. 424 LHS students, faculty, and administrators also signed on as "vocal supporters", wearing stickers and handing out informational cards. According to students who planned the event, it was the most widespread event of its kind at LHS.

The DOS began nationally in 1996, with participation from many students in schools across the country. Organized annually by the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA), the DOS has had a long history at LHS. Guidance counselor and GSA advisor Melissa Buttaro said that the event has been going on for at least seven years.

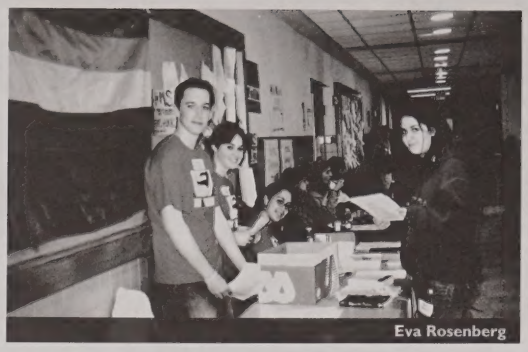
This year's DOS, however, was not without controversy. For the first time, DOS coordinators were met by organized resistance. Two adult protestors demonstrated outside of LHS with signs that read "Speak the truth loudly today. God does not want anyone to sin." Several LHS students also wore stickers during the day with a picture of a male and a female. Underneath was a caption that read "How it was meant to be." Students wearing these stickers declined to comment.

Some students who did not take part in the DOS criticized the event as being motivated by peer pressure. Bobbie Beyer, however, a bisexual senior and the GSA Senate representative, saw the DOS as having "rocked the school community." Buttaro called the day important because "it reminds the greater population of the silencing that queer people feel" when they are not able to be out or to be themselves at school. Several GSA members affirmed their support for the right of students to wear the counter-DOS stickers, but they also voiced their reaction to the opposition.

"Do [the "way it was meant to be"] sticker-wearers understand how hurtful what they did was?" asks Buttaro. Danny Harris, a gay sophomore and GSA member who participated in the DOS, said he felt "offended and personally attacked." LHS principal Dr. Michael Jones called the opposition stickers "inappropriate."

"While the state has no policy specifically on the Day of Silence," said Jones, "the state Board of Education and the Department of Education officially '[encourage] schools to offer school-based support groups for gay,

... PAGE 2


Eva Rosenberg

Emmett Patton, Kim Douglas, Flo Dickerson, Patricia Harris staff a Day of Silence table in Commons I

Eva Rosenberg

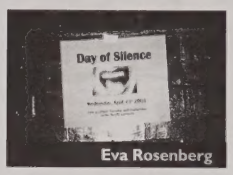
Protestors distributed "How It Was Meant To Be" stickers to students.

DAY OF SILENCE • FROM PAGE 1

lesbian, and heterosexual students.'" While the LHS Day of Silence and Breaking the Silence events went forward consistently with these policies, a follow-up assembly called the Day of Dialogue was cancelled "in the interests of safety for students," according to Jones.

Many members of the high school community agree that the wide range of opinions should be respectfully expressed. In addition to encouraging those with strong opinions to speak out, Beyer commented, "It is not my place to tell [the student protestors] what they can and cannot say." Harris also acknowledged that some students may have felt threatened by both sides of the DOS issue. Jones stated that "the high school is committed both to freedom of expression and to safety for all students." The administration as a whole has expressed a desire to make the school safe for all students, including DOS participants and opponents.

As for next steps, Beyer says that the GSA has been stimulated by the protests "to work even harder in their goal of making this school... a safer place for everyone."



Eva Rosenberg

The GSA started its poster campaign prior to the event to raise awareness.

EDITORIALS

The True Meaning Behind the Day of Silence

By Eva Rosenberg

On Wednesday, April 13, 729 members of the Lexington High School community participated in the annual Day of Silence (DOS) as silent participants and vocal supporters. Founded in 1996, the DOS is a day of action to protest the harassment and discrimination faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) people. School community members take vows of silence or wear stickers and show their support as "vocal supporters" to protest the silencing of GLBT people and their straight allies. The DOS is unique in that it is the largest student-led GLBT rights action of its kind. This year, nearly half a million students in almost 5,000 schools participated nationwide.

The Lexington High School Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) observes the Day of Silence every year by making stickers, t-shirts, and "speaking cards" available to those who choose to participate, but this year was the first time that participants faced opposition to their cause. Unfortunately, some members of the school and town community misunderstood the Day of Silence. Rather than seeking to impose a "gay lifestyle" on others or trying to advance a "gay agenda," the DOS demands tolerance for all, regardless of sexual orientation and/or gender identity/expression. It does not attempt to challenge beliefs of those who find homosexuality, bisexuality, and transgenderism unacceptable, but rather upholds the right of GLBT people not to be harassed.

Students were met at school by protestors holding signs that read, "Speak the truth loudly today. God does not want anyone to sin." These protestors refused to be identified and it is unknown whether they are in fact members of the Lexington community.

It is unfortunate that adults felt they could use the school as a battleground for their hurtful beliefs, because Lexington High School's Day of Silence is a completely student-organized event that seeks only to secure equal treatment for all.

Later on in the day, some students wore stickers with a symbol of a man and a woman and the words, "How it was meant to be." Again, this was a misguided protest, since the Day of Silence addresses how the world is a diverse community where all individuals have a right to live free from discrimination and intolerance. And again, the stickers were given out by a parent: parental resistance to a student-run, school-contained activity.

Despite the unfortunate events of the past week, many good things came out of the Day of Silence. The widespread Day of Silence participation by students, faculty, and staff showed that the LHS community is becoming a safer place for GLBT students. This year, many participants wore red DOS t-shirts, a visible sign of increased interest in the rights of others. And across the school, discussions about tolerance, bigotry, harassment, and freedom of speech could be heard.

The Massachusetts Family Institute, a conservative group, sent out an email warning parents about the Day of Silence, a day when the "homosexual agenda [would be] on full display." They are right. We do have an agenda: with the help of a supportive administration, faculty, and student body, we strive for tolerance—and even acceptance—of all people, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and straight, in society. Is that too much to ask?

Lexington Community Debates Weighted GPA

By Amelia Servi

On the evening of May 24, the Lexington School Committee met in the LHS auditorium to discuss the possible elimination of the weighted grade point average at LHS. While the final School Committee vote is scheduled for June 7, the May 24 meeting served as a forum for community debate on the issue. Despite cold and persistent rain, the auditorium was half-filled with at least fifty LHS faculty members, a few LHS students and many members of the community.

This meeting followed an already long debate over the issue. On November 10, the LHS Student-Faculty Senate passed a bill eliminating the weighted GPA. Approved by LHS principal Dr. Michael Jones, the bill was to go into effect beginning with the class of 2009. In addition, an informal vote conducted of approximately 150 LHS faculty members showed that only one faculty member disagreed with the change in policy.

The PTSA, Curriculum Cabinet, LHS administration, and School Council have also endorsed the elimination of the weighted GPA. On April 6, the plan was presented at a PTSA-sponsored forum in the Library Media Center. According to LHS math teacher Jim Williams, "a number of parents showed up who were incredibly rude and there was no chance of a conversation about the issue." Several parents appealed the decision to the School Committee.

On June 7, the School Committee can either vote to endorse the elimination of the weighted GPA, condemn its elimination, or declare that they do not have jurisdiction over the matter.

The May 24 school committee meeting featured the citation of many contradicting statistics concerning the effect of the weighted GPA in the college admission process.

Previously, the LHS Senate stated that in two Guidance Department-conducted surveys of approximately 150 and 75 colleges respectively, all but a very few did not use weighted GPA's in their admission decisions.

During the May 24 meeting, two members of the Lexington community showed a power point presentation disputing this result. They cited a study conducted by an individual researcher, G. Downs of the University of Maine, demonstrating that "a comparison of students with the same basic transcript shows that the student with weighted grades was chosen 76% of the time." They did not, however, say how Downs reached this conclusion. This contradiction of numbers caused a member of the community in the open forum to question whether "anyone [can] show serious, well-designed research showing what colleges actually do."

... PAGE 6

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DEAR DR. JONES • FROM PAGE 1

Of course, you know all of this, but the rest of the school does not. Well before school began, before students and even most teachers saw the prank, the cardboard sheets were ripped off the ground and the center of the quad was left barren again, with only small strips of glue remaining to signify that anything had happened at all. After weeks of preparation and excitement, you broke thirteen hearts that morning. Furthermore, no mention of the prank was made, not only to the students, but *even to the rest of the administration*. In my conversations with several administrators, guidance counselors, and other members of the administration very little information about that morning was known, if any at all. It is as if the fact that the prank ever happened was completely wiped out of the collective memory of this community all together.

I understand that this is your first year stewarding Lexington High School, but surely you must have heard about the 'Smiley Face' of last year. The giant yellow face, painted onto the building by departing seniors, was lauded by the school as a perfect example of a fun, harmless prank. On top of this, when an inappropriate addition was added to it by other students and threatened to ruin the fun for everyone, the administration repaired the damage to preserve the good-natured prank. It is hard for me to fathom how a sea of two-inch children's toys is any different from this. Shortly after the failed prank of 2005, your administration informed the seniors about your 'no tolerance' policy regarding pranks. This policy, which was not made clear until after the toy soldiers were well gone, is indicative of this entire year. The school year of 2004-2005 has been a year lived under a shroud of fear. Many students were surprised by a sudden and massive police presence on campus before April vacation. Rumors swirled and tensions were raised before the administration belatedly and insufficiently informed the students and parents about why the police were on campus. Tensions came to a near boil-over around the Day of Silence, when the student population was polarized and the administration made no attempt to quell the anger from both sides or address the situation until the day after. The day after is a day too late. Now, the four years that us 05'ers spent at LHS, which began with the life-altering events of 9/11, will end with us being protested as we graduate, the result of the Day of Silence tensions. 'God hates LHS' will be a slogan that we will hear as we walk out the door of high school life.

I plead with you to return LHS to a state of common sense. It is difficult to enter a situation where the school you will be leading is unfamiliar, and it cannot be expected that you had it easy as a first year principal here. However, the tensions that built up throughout the year still remain. And the 'no tolerance' policy on pranks is, much like the massive visible police presence and the withholding of information about the graffiti, as well as the canceling of Day of Silence related events, are the easy way to deal with this tension. But the easy way is not the best way. Common sense about harmless pranks, common sense on a small scale helps to ease the tension and return LHS to a more unified state. My time here is over, but I ask you to do so for the students whose time is not.

MOST SINCERELY,

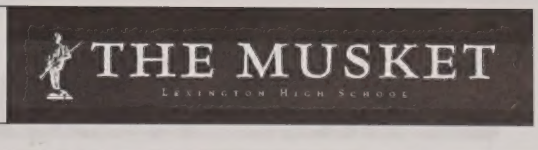
Andrew Yegian

THE MUSKET
Lexington High School

Senior Destinations

Megan Abbot	Georgetown University
Archibald Abrams	Bowdoin College
Kelly Adams	Kenyon College
Yeajin An	Temple University
Lala Anai	*undecided*
David Anderson	University of New Orleans
Jacob Anderson	Colorado College
Sarah Andryauskas	Gettysburg College
Alejandra Arenas	Syracuse University
Adam Aresty	University of Michigan
Alexander Arnow	Boston College
Felicia Au	Simmons College
Zachary Ausschnitt	*Internship year with Dynamy*
Karen Avallone	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Harrison Awrach	University of Pittsburg
Bahar Ayasli	Bentley College
Christopher Baker	Washington University - St. Louis
Anastasia Barleva	Northeastern University
Mark Barons	Stetson University
Ashley Barry	Boston University
Nicholas Barry	Juniata College
Jason Barth	Hamilton College
Sarah Basch	Brandeis University
Abhik Basu	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Sruti Basu	Case Western Reserve University
Jill Beamon	Beloit College
Ryan Bell	Villanova University
Nicholas Belmont	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Hannah Bernstein	Messiah College
Simon Beugekian	Northeastern University
Roberta Beyer	Tulane University
Michael Bienkowski	*Postgrad year at Loomis Chaffee Prep School*
Zachary Blier	American University
Vamsy Bobba	Columbia University
Leo Boer	Tulane University
Kristen Boggan	University of Rhode Island
Aram Boghosian	Tufts University
Julia Bond	Bowdoin College
Robyn Bonds	Tuskegee University
Jason Bongiovanni	Houghton College
Kathryn Bongiovanni	Mount Ida College
Robert Bongiovi	Fairfield University
Edward Borden	Bentley College
Yael Borensztein	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Christopher Bouchard	Endicott College
Jodi Brauer	Boston University
Kenneth Breen	University of Arizona
Daniel Brotman	*Israeli Defense Forces*
Dawson Bruckman	North Carolina State University
Jamilah Bullette-Marshall	Johnson C. Smith University
Michael Busa	University of South Carolina
Luis Calero	*Taking year off*
Elizabeth Campbell	University of Maryland - College Park
Jason Cappadona	*Work*
Shaun Carlson	Dean College
Matthew Carper	Boston University
Nicole Castagnozzi	Pitzer College
Daniel Cecchetti	Northwestern University
Crystal Chang	Harvard University
Stephanie Chang	Northwestern University
Tracy Chang	Boston College
Charmaine Charles	Curry College
Emily Chen	Tufts University
Tzong-Yang Chen	Harvard University
Alex Cheng	Duke University
Michael Chiricosta	Merrimack College
Stephen Chiricosta	Merrimack College
Jessica Chisholm	University of New England
Graham Chitouras	Plymouth State in New Hampshire
Daniel Choi	Northwestern University
Priscilla Choi	Wheaton College
Olivia Chuang	University of Pennsylvania
Doowon Chung	Boston College
Seungwon Chung	Wake Forest University
Carolyn Chyu	Brandeis University
Vanessa Cirella	Framington State College
Alisha Coble	Lasell College
Philip Coleman	*undecided*
Matthew Constanti	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Kara Cooledge	Lasell College
Molly Costello	University of New Hampshire
Emily Cotran	Wake Forest University
Jenna Crane	Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Julie Croteau	Quinnipiac University
Benjamin Crystal	Oberlin College
Jonathan Cunha	Wheaton College
Rebecca Cunha	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Lindsay Curry	Quinnipiac University
Megan Curtis	University of Massachusetts - Lowell
Yelena Cvek	Brown University
Kristin D'Auria	University of Rhode Island
Dale Davidson	George Washington University
Ariana Davis	Trinity College
Arthur Deirmenjian	Middlesex Community College
Tiffany Delgado	
Melissa Demir	Suffolk University
Kevork Derkevorkian	Middlesex Community College
Adwitia Dey	University of Toronto
Julia Diamant	Mitchell College
Jessa Dickinson	Oberlin College
Anders DiLascio	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
David DiPietro	
Alexander Dixon	Carleton College
Natasha Dolgin	Case Western Reserve University
Patricia Domings	Assumption College
Michael Donahue	*undecided*
Jeanne Donato	*continuing high school*
Melissa Doo	University of New Hampshire
Brittany Doran	
Alexa Dougherty	Colorado College
Colin Downs-Dudley	University of Vermont
Samuel Doxsey	*Post-graduate year at Williston Northhampton*
Denese Doyle	University of Bridgeport
Elizabeth Drellich	George Washington University
Katya Dreyer-Oren	Brandeis University
Ryan Driscoll	Salem State College
Alan Druga	Tufts Universiity
Lei Duan	New Jersey Institute of Technology
Andrew Duffy	Iona College
Monique Duval	Middlesex Community College Skating, modeling
Philippa Eccles	Harvard University
Tyler Edell	*taking a year off*
Greg Edmiston	Washington University - St. Louis
Junelia Edwards	Northeastern University
Jill Eisenberg	University of Richmond
Janette Ekanem	Clark University
Jonathan Elkin	Washington University - St. Louis
Janelle Eloi	University of Virginia
Caitlin Enders	Oberlin College
David Ertel	McGill University
Galen Evans	George Washington University
Martha Falkenstein	University of Maryland - College Park
Nicholas Feinstein	Emory University
Michael Fentin	Emory University
Ava Fields	University of New Hampshire
Jeremy Finch	Wesleyan University
Julia Fiorentini	Curry College of Nursing
Eric Fischbach	Bard College
Rebecca Fleishman	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Eugene Marie Florendo	Simmons College
Andrew Flori	Bridgeton Academy
Aimee Folger	Clark University
Samantha Fonseca-Moreira	Clark University
Casimar Fraser	Queen's ISC Herstmonceux Program
Jessica Fretts	University of Vermont
Christopher Friedlich	Columbia College
Zachary Friedman	University of Maryland - College Park
Audrey Fritton	Providence College
Grace Galvin	George Washington University
Dina Gankin	Brandeis University
David Ganzi	Boston University
Manaswini Garimella	Wellesley College
Alya Garry	Northeastern University
Monique Getzoyan	University of Rhode Island
Manneh Ghazarians	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Rachael Ghorbani	Wesleyan University
Marina Gibbons	Bryn Mawr College
Julia Gildea	Villanova University
Rachel Goldberg	Skidmore College
Anna Goldie	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Andrew Goodrich	Miami University
John Goodwin	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Maria Goszczynska	Rhode Island School of Design
Amanda Grabel	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Jessica Green	Wesleyan University
Lachelle Greene	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Matthew Griffin	*taking a year off*
Natasha Groblewski	Middlebury College
Joshua Grossberg	Syracuse University
Sarah Groves	Skidmore College
Edward Grueter	University of Massachusetts - Boston
Elizabeth Guerra	Curry College
Jennifer Gung	University of Maryland - College Park
Benjamin Guth	McGill University
Elizabeth Guttenberg	Vanderbilt University
Brendan Haggerty	Sarah Lawrence College
Manuel Hagopian	Middlesex Community College
Jacqueline Hai	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Brian Ham	Westfield State College
Christina Han	Cornell University
Sabra Hanspal	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Michelle Harris	Lehigh University
Caslon Harrison	
Kyle Hatherley	
Rolandas Hauser	Wake Forest University
Brady Hearn	Manhattan School of Music
Jeffrey Heinze-Fry	Clarkson University
Cathleen Henneberry	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Leah Henoch	Clark University
Marilyn Heymann	University of Toronto
Poonam Hirani	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Andrew Ho	Stanford University
Emily Holland	Clark University
Megan Hollembaek	Regis College
Shayna Holloway	North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Bryan Holmes	Wheaton College
Jamie Holton	University of Rhode Island
Eileen Hosmer-Mullen	Lesley College
Hannah Hsieh	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Beverly Hsu	Carnegie Mellon University
Emily Hsu	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Gilbert Hsu	University of Miami
Po Jung Hsu	Northeastern University
Alex Hu	Duke University
Rae Huang	Boston University
Scott Hunter	Syracuse University
Tristan Husby	Connecticut College
David Iba	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Maxwell Isaak	Dean College
Marissa Jacobs	Southern New Hampshire University
Alexander Jenson	Yale University
Iny Jhun	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Alise Johnson	Roger Williams University
Nicholas Joliat	*undecided*
Peter Jones	University of Massachusetts - Amherst

The Musket is proud to present "Senior Destinations," our annual compilation of the various educational programs, jobs, and activities that the Class of 2005 will be pursuing following graduation. This information was submitted by students during homeroom and has not been confirmed by the Guidance Department. This information may not be reproduced without written permission.



Henry Jonsson	Union College
Siddharth Joshi	
Maya Joslow	New York University
Daniel Kalus	University of Vermont
Paul Kanarian	Nickels College
Stephen Kanter	Middlesex Community College
Jason Kashmanian	Westfield State College
Masato Katagiri	Prep School for College
Sarah Keeping	Mount Holyoke College
Lauren Keller	Smith College
Timothy Kelly	Boston University
Kathryn Kern	Colorado College
Brandon Kimm	Syracuse University
Matthew King	Prep School at Cushing Academy
Theodore Kirby	Harvard University
Laura Klimek	Northeastern University
Stanislav Kostarnov	Edingburgh University or University of London the School of Oriental and African Studies
Cybele Kotonias	Macalester College
Rachel Krasner	Emerson College
Joseph Kuker	
Aurora Kurland	Bowdoin College
Hanna Kuznetsov	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Juwon Kwon	Boston University
Paul Kwon	Trinity College
William Lamar	*undecided*
Katherine Lane	DePaul Theatre School
Kyle Larson	Ithaca College
Scott Lasa	*taking a year off*
Emily Lawson	Middlesex Community College
Christopher Lee	Wheaton College
HaNa Lee	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
James Lee	Boston University
Daniel Lempesis	Landmark College
Jason Leung	Brown University
Nicholas Levy	University of Maryland - College Park
Matthew Li	University of California - San Diego
Benjamin Lidman	Syracuse University
Jesse Lin	Syracuse University
Alexandra Lomedico	Skidmore College
Christopher Lung	University of Illinois
Socheata Ly	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Lacey MacLellan	Hawaii Pacific University
Gabriel Maeck	Boston University
David Maltzan	Tufts University
Benjamin Marcal	Babson College
Alexander Maslow	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Johanne Matte	HEC Montreal
Sara Mazzone	Springfield College
Casey McAlduff	University of Southern California
Gregory McCarthy	Middlesex Community College
Lia McCarthy	College of the Holy Cross
Megan McCarty	Bowdoin College
Julia McDonald	New York University
Robert McFadden	*United States Marine Corps*
Rebecca McGowan	Wellesley College
Emily McIntosh	Massachusetts College of Art
Michelle McKinney	Emanuel College
Melinda Medlock	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2006)
Emily Melton	Harvard University
Dan Meltzer	Brown University
Sarkarlynn Meng	
Andrea Mercado	Tufts University
Hilary Mislan	Macalester College
Mansi Mistri	University of Massachusetts - Boston
Laura Misumi	University of Michigan
Michael Modoono	Wentworth Institute of Technogy
Alex Moir	University of North Carolina - Greensboro
Edmund Montanari	University of Vermont
Elisa Moresco	University of Colorado - Boulder
Paul Morris	Columbia University
Laura Morrissey	Oberlin College
Lauren Moscatel	Santa Monica College
Jade Mosquera	Boston University
Masumi Moto	International Christian University
Sarah Muccioli	Merrimack College
James Munger	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Joseph Musacchia	Northeastern University
Kelsey Nason	Boston University
Taleen Nazarian	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Bryant Nestico	Middlesex Community College
Emily Neumann	College of Wooster
Thomas Neumeier	Boston College
Nabila Newaz	Northeastern University
Lauren Niemand	Trinity University
James Noonan	Connecticut College
Emily Norford	Connecticut College
Michael O'Brien	*taking a year off and traveling*
Alexander O'Connell	
Christopher O'Connor	College of the Holy Cross
Bryan Olsen	
Andrew O'Neil	Bard College
James Osborn	Plymouth State in New Hampshire
Dylan Oteri	Bentley College
Jeremy Ozer	Carnegie Mellon University
Amelie Pandraud	University of Michigan
Patrick Parhiala	Fordham University
Soyoung Park	Syracuse University
Kiki Patel	Northeastern University
Laura Patnode	*Working with the City year program in Chicago*
Jesse Paulsen	Haverford College
Casey Pellegrino	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Benjamin Perlman	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Keri Phelan	Providence College
Benjamin Pierce	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Amanda Pinnix	
Brendan Plesha	Binghamton University
Jonathon Poage	University of Chicago
Renan Prodocimo	Babson College
Yihao Pu	Carnegie Mellon University
Joseph Quigley	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Danielle Raberg	Oberlin College
Manu Ramesh	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Bijan Rashidifard	University of Massachusetts - Lowell
Marina Raynis	
Britton Riley	University of Southern California
Kiri Rix	*taking a year off*
Maxwell Rollinger	American University
Zachary Rosenthal	University of Michigan
Kathleen Ross	Butera School of Art
Lauren Rouse	University of New Hampshire
Anthony Russo	Westfield State College
Katharine Sagan	Northwestern University
Marco Sanchez	Merrimack College
Laquita Sanders	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Mina Sasaki	*moving to Japan*
Lena Sawin	Cornell University
Leah Scampini	University of Connecticut
Meirav Schatz	University of Hartford
Alexandra Schauffele	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
David Schiavi	University of Hawaii
Philipp Schoeniger	Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Alexander Schultz	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Julia Schutt	Connecticut College
Lawrence Schweitzer	Colgate University
Andrew Scott	Stonehill College
Nathan Sealy	Cheshire Academy
Arun Seehra	
Amelia Servi	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Katie Shafer	Carnegie Mellon University (2006)
Gloria Shan	University of Michigan
Ralph Shao	Boston University
Daniel Shapiro	Berklee College of Music
Neeraj Sharma	
Veda Shastri	Tufts University
Widette Sheedy	Depaul University
Rebecca Sheff	Macalester College
Solomon Shenker	McGill University
Alex Shevrin	American University
Michael Shin	*undecided*
Christina Shiue	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Elizabeth Shugert	University of Washington
Alexander Simmons	Villanova University
William Simmons	*undecided*
Lindsay Simon	Wheaton College
Sarah Singer	Bard College
Benjamin Skier	University of Southern California
Alexis Smith	Bates College
Robert Smith	Suffolk University
Carolyn Snell	University of Vermont
Beth Solomon	Union College
Sagar Sood	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Jesse Spartichino	Brown University
Thomas Steiner	George Washington University
Emily Stone	University of Rochester
Jessie Strauss	Kalamazoo College
Joyce Sun	Adelphi University
Camille Swagerty	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Sabriya Syed	McGill University
Gregory Tallent	Loyola University
Laura Tallent	Boston College
Ivan Tan	Brown University
YiJen Tan	University of Maryland - College Park
Linnea Texin	University of Michigan
Troy Thornton Jr	Johnson C. Smith University
Ashley Tingley	*work*
Mary Tokko	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Alice Tomic	Tufts University
Alexander Traniello	*work and culinary arts program*
Michelle Tremblay	University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth
Hayato Tsurumaki	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Elyse Tyson	George Washington University
Raphael Valenti	University of Vermont
James Vanneman	Emory University
Stephanie Vernick	University of Vermont
Jeffrey Villanueva	John Carroll University DAP
Shyam Vimal	*undecided*
Sarah Vogele	College of Wooster (2006)
Philipp Walzer	Boston University
Justin Wan	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Rei Wang	Emory University
Christopher Warren	Syracuse University
Ari Warsawski	Bentley College
Miriam Wasser	Connecticut College
David Wasserman	University of Vermont
Paul Wentzell	Lasell College
Sarah Whitfield	Yale University
Laurel Williams	Boston University
Shaun Williams	Bridgewater State College
Teanna Williams	Baystate College
Jennifer Wilson	Bentley College
Ari Wolfeld	University of Miami
Sarah Wong	Boston University
Curtis Wood	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Heather Works	University of Arizona
Katherine Wyman	Wellesley College
Stanislaw Wyslouch	Tufts University
Yang Xu	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Shelley Yang	Brown University
Scott Yarmovsky	University of Delaware
Andrew Yegian	Northeastern University
Jeanne Yeh	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Kristen Ying	University of Pennsylvania
Zachary Yocum	University of Rochester
Helena Zhang	New York University
Leo Zimmermann	Harvard University
Rebecca Zwicker	University of New England

Senate Resolves Armed Forces' Discrimination Bill Controversy

By Eric Eid-Reiner

The LHS Student Faculty Senate recently passed a resolution stating its opposition to the U.S. Armed Forces' ability to "discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation under the so-called Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy."

This resolution followed months of discussion over the Recruiter Bill, that would have prohibited groups from recruiting at LHS that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. The bill was passed by the Senate with a vote of 33-10, but was then vetoed by principal Dr. Michael Jones. The veto was two Senate votes short of an override, which would have brought the decision before the School Committee.

Several members of LHS' Gay-Straight Alliance have voiced their disappointment at the tabling of the Recruiter Bill, but are glad for the strong show of support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) members of the LHS community that they feel has been conveyed by the unanimous passage of the resolution.

Junior Jareth Arnold feels the resolution is "a step in the right direction," but that it will not have much of an impact on our school. He still applauds the idea of "making it publicly known that the GLBT students at LHS are supported."

Under the armed forces' "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue, Don't Harass" Policy, armed service members may be investigated and administratively discharged if they make a statement that they are GLBT, engage in physical contact with someone of the same sex for the purposes of sexual gratification, or attempt to marry someone of the same sex.

The Senate resolution explains that "this law has proven to be a failure in protecting the safety of gay servicepeople, a loss to the United States of valuable citizens willing to serve, costly to implement, unnecessary for protecting unit cohesion, and an injustice to all patriotic gay Americans desiring to serve their country." It also notes that the policy contradicts Massachusetts State Law and the LHS Statement of Purpose, which was "designed to create an atmosphere of tolerance, safety, and equal opportunity in our school."

Additionally, it states that the Senate recognizes the enormous debt owed the members of the armed forces who daily risk their lives in protecting our community and nation, and that the discriminatory policy was the creation of our country's elected officials and not the members of the armed forces. Consistent with this view, "The Lexington High School Student-Faculty Senate calls upon the President of the United States and all Massachusetts Senators and Representatives to Congress to overturn the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy' and to allow openly gay Americans to serve in the armed forces of the United States."

The Senate resolved that its Executive Committee would forward this resolution to said elected officials, the LHS Musket, the Lexington Minuteman, and the Boston Globe. They further resolved that the School Committee be informed of this vote, and that the committee be urged to endorse the resolution.

While the vast majority of GLBT people in the armed forces have been held to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" aspect of the policy, the "Don't Pursue, Don't Harass" parts of the policy are often not followed. A 2000 Defense Department Inspector General survey showed that 80% of service members had heard offensive speech, derogatory names, jokes, or remarks about gays in the previous year, and that 85% of those believed such comments were tolerated.

Sophomore Ben Schlosser, who is also opposed to the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Policy, commented that the resolution "will probably not have an immediate, evident effect on LHS, but will raise awareness about how discriminatory the armed forces are and how immoral this discrimination is." He also hopes that the resolution will "lead people to question and challenge the policy."

Junior Wendy Epstein added that she hopes that the resolution will perhaps deter recruiters from coming to LHS, or at least send a strong message to the U.S. Armed Forces that we as a school are united in our opposition to the policy.

WEIGHTED GPA • FROM PAGE 3

Much of the debate has been centered on the question of what is best for student self-esteem. In arguing to abolish the weighted GPA, LHS Math Department head Gary Simon stated that "students should earn honors. I have taught many level one students who are more dedicated than honors students... level one and level two students have internalized the devalued status of [those] classes." Simon's statements received a standing ovation from the faculty and much of the audience.

On the other side of the aisle, other community members argued that without the weighted GPA for honors classes, students are discouraged from taking academic risks. One parent said, "you can't tell a child that all children are the same."

The other focus of the meeting, and the aspect that has made it such a heated issue, is the division of some parents against the LHS faculty and Senate. Simon noted that "condescending remarks towards the faculty... have been voiced in this debate... There is an attack campaign in progress."

Senior Caty Enders, a member of the LHS Senate, emphasized that "the Senate debated this and passed it. The compassion is on the side that wants to abolish the weighted GPA... The parents are focused on the numbers and not on the students." Math teacher Walter Richardson said, "I have dedicated my life to public education. The faculty has found a way to serve you better. That is our only agenda."

On the other side, a parent complained that "the faculty is not reaching out to the community. They are not explaining their position... Parents are not respected for caring about college." Another community member noted, "The Senate and faculty are not compromising."

In an interview after the meeting, Jones stated that "[the school] has made progress discussing the decision with the pubic and publishing letters in the PTSA publication... Both sides care about the students but some parents see the situation of their own children, not the larger picture. I am confident that this will work out in the long run; any change will be greeted with skepticism."

FEATURES

Yelena Cvek's designs were chosn for both the front and back of the Alll-Night Graduation Party t-shirts

FEATURES

Math Team Tallies Another Strong Year

By Albert Chen

The nationally recognized LHS math team has completed another successful year, taking first place in two different leagues. This year's team was led by four captains, seniors Albert Chen and Iny Jhun, and juniors David Wen and Daniel Suo. The team was coached by math teachers Sal Rahman and Albert Roos.

This year, approximately 65 LHS students tried out for the math team, the highest number ever. The tryouts were extremely challenging, with the highest score on the tryout test an eleven out of twenty-five. The competing members vary from meet to meet and league to league, based not only on skill but also on various roster requirements and availability. Those not competing formally are allowed to participate as alternates, but their scores are not counted.

The math team is primarily part of three math leagues: the Massachusetts Math League (MML), the Greater Boston Math League (GBML), and the New England Math League (NEML). For each one, the team competes in five or six meets a year. This year the team won first place overall in both the MML and the NEML, and third place in GBML.

Peer Mediation Program Grows

By Tim Kelly

You may have seen their information forms in the Guidance Offices. You may have heard about them from your deans or health teachers. You may have even purchased a "stress doughnut" (a take-off from the stress ball) at lunch.

But what exactly is the Peer Mediation program? It is a voluntary program designed to help students find safe and successful ways to deal with their conflicts with others. There are about a dozen LHS student mediators, all trained under the Massachusetts Attorney General's Guidelines for mediation.

Students are selected based on an interview and application review. This year's student coordinator is senior Julia Bond. Mediators meet every few weeks with faculty advisors Beth Ribeiro and Rebecca Federspiel.

From time to time as requests for mediation come in, mediators are chosen (usually in groups of two) to sit down with the conflicting students and facilitate an environment where it is safe and easy to talk and let things out. The goal being that, in the end, an agreement between the two students will be reached, and the two parties will sign it. The entire process is completely confidential and has been very successful in the past.

One problem, however, is that knowledge of the program has decreased and referrals have gone down in recent years. The mediators and faculty advisors have spent much of this year working on increasing awareness and rebuilding administrative, faculty, and student support for the program. Interviews will be held to determine next year's mediators after the seniors have graduated.

The program is available at any time to anyone who would like to utilize it. Information and applications are available in any house secretary's office, and all deans and guidance counselors can answer questions. Applications to be a mediator next year are in room 245, Ms. Ribeiro's office, or from Ms. Woessner in the main guidance suite.

Jazz Combo Shares Talent with Town

By Amelia Servi

Anyone wandering past the Lexington High School auditorium on the evening of Saturday, May 14 would have assumed that they were hearing a sought after jazz group. In fact, they were. The LHS jazz combo, composed of six amazing musicians, played two extraordinary one-hour sets Saturday in a concert whose proceeds will help pay for their trip to Le Festival de Jazz de Montreux in Switzerland this coming summer.

The performance consisted entirely of original pieces written by the group members. As combo director Jeffrey Leonard said in a short speech, by writing their own pieces, the group had created an environment in which to be even more creative. With almost every member contributing an original piece to the lineup, this approach led to songs in a variety of styles and many inspired solos.

The reputation of the combo has clearly spread well beyond LHS. The full auditorium contained many white-haired individuals, way too many to all be parents and grandparents of the group members. In fact, one woman interviewed said she was a member of the Lexington Pops Chorus, a Lexington singing group that was going to perform with the combo on May 20 and 21. She had come to LHS that night to hear the group she would be performing with. The town-wide support of the combo was also evident in the show's program booklet, chock full of personalized advertisements wishing the group good luck at Montreux. The advertisements were collected by the parents of the combo members.

At first glance the combo appeared quite serious on stage. Unlike the eclectic caps, ties and jackets that the group has been known to wear to jazz nites, the musicians were all outfitted in shiny black suits and serious ties. Starting immediately in on their program, there was a feeling of no-nonsense professionalism to the group. As they played, one could feel the intensity radiating from the stage. It was only an hour into the program that the group loosened their ties: Junior Sam Mehr broke the serious facade to announce that it was combo member junior Ben Bautz's birthday. The audience was then swept up in an improvised rendition of the old classic, "Happy Birthday to You."

SPORTS

Baseball Returns to Playoffs

By Simon Lehar

The Lexington Boys Varsity Baseball team has done a great job against a tough Middlesex League this year. Despite facing strong pitching and aggressive hitting, the Minutemen posted a 11-9 record, which was good enough to make it into the post-season tournament.

The baseball team finished off their season by splitting a double-header against Everett for the 11-9 record. Everett finished the season ranked seventh in the state and was yet another example of a very tough out-of-league schedule that should prepare the Minutemen for the intense play of the tournament.

Seniors on the team are now heading into the final leg of their high school careers, and they will be missed and remembered for a long time. Everyone has put a remarkable effort into each game, and the result has been yet another solid season for the team.

FEATURES

Dresden Dolls Share their Music Experience

By Jessica Green

On April 14th, the popular Boston rock group the Dresden Dolls visited social studies teacher Sam Kafrissen's American Popular Culture class to discuss how their group came together and the trials and tribulations of life in the pop lane. The Dolls consist of former LHS graduate Amanda Palmer, who writes the group's songs, sings and plays piano, and New Hampshire native, Brian Viglione, who plays drums. In describing their music to the class, Palmer and Viglione said that they played something that is a combination of "German Cabaret circa the 1930s, punk and heavy metal."

The duet was formed in 2001 when the two met at an art opening and Halloween party at Palmer's South End apartment. At the time, Viglione was playing in his fifth commercial group since high school, but was looking for something new and distinctly different. He certainly found that with Palmer, who had been writing songs, doing experimental music, drama and street theater for years. Prior to meeting Viglione, Palmer was appearing as a solo performer at small clubs while also "posing" as the Eight-Foot Bride mannequin in Harvard Square.

The two guests shared their experiences as a struggling band trying to get off the ground in a market where they believed their music might have only a "niche appeal." Palmer explained how at first, they tried to control all of their own business and even flirted with starting their own record label, but eventually gave up that idea when they realized how much the business was taking time and energy away from their musical creativity. In the end, they decided to hire a manager who approached them with an offer.

When asked about where they are now, professionally speaking, Amanda said that they have sold about 50,000 units of their debut CD and been on tour throughout the United States and Europe. Furthermore, they will soon be touring with Nine Inch Nails, in a move that will surely expose the band to a larger youth audience. "Pretty good," Viglione added, for a band they presumed would have at best a "cult following."

One of the distinguishing aspects of the Dolls' stage act is that both band members dress in cabaret-style outfits while wearing stage make-up. Palmer related how this was kind of a throwback to the mid-1960s when British bands like the Beatles and Kinks toured America wearing Edwardian style suits and similar haircuts. "We're like a twenty-first century version" of the kind of dress-up rock which went out of style with the grunge movement of the 1990s, Palmer explained.

Viglione spent a good deal of his time with the class explaining how music was always a "calling" for him, and how he saw it as a healthy way to express his emotions. He urged members of the class to similarly pursue their own artistic calling, even if it meant putting off or forgoing college to do what truly motivates them.

On the other hand, Palmer spoke of how her experiences at LHS, especially in the arts, inspired her to follow her own path in the music biz. Although she explained that college was not the fulfilling experience she had hoped it would be and that kids should consider taking a year off, her time spent at Wesleyan, especially the year she studied abroad in Germany, later inspired some of the music and the stage trappings that have come to characterize a Dresden Dolls' show. "At many of our shows," she added, "we ask audience members to perform as well whether it be in magic, juggling, making jewelry, or whatever they want to do, so that the show becomes a true audience participation event."

The Dolls were the subject of a recent article in the Arts and Entertainment section of the May 8th Sunday Boston Globe. This was in anticipation of their two Orpheum Theatre shows that week opening for Nine Inch Nails; each show was sold out almost immediately. In the Globe interview, Palmer and Viglione described how they were "snatched up" by Road Runner Records and then approached out of the blue by Trent Reznor of NIN to go on tour with his band. Reznor explained to the band that he had first seen their video and then watched a whole Dolls set from the side of the stage. Apparently he was sold on the act and the rest is history. Once the tour ends, the Dresden Dolls will be hard at work putting together a second CD.

Drama Dept Encores With Spring Play

By Andrew Gerzon

With Globefest having passed and the musical long gone, the drama department turned out one last performance: this year's spring play. Performed May 5-7, this dramatic work consisted of two plays, both dealing with the subject of love and directed by drama teacher Sandra DiMartino.

"Small World," written by Tracey Scott Wilson, was performed first in the black box theater. A humorous representation of the dating game, "Small World" presented three different dates occurring simultaneously on stage. The daters were played by juniors Naris Ghazarian, Sasha Raikhlina, sophomore Sohini Pilai, freshmen Calvin Iverson, Lucas Levy, and Justin Noveline.

Through overlapping and coinciding dialogue the audience learned the connections between all of the daters and their past experiences with each other that ranged from the funny to the bizzare. These scenes presented the characters' differing views on love; some naively want to fall in love instantly while others, depressed and jaded, date only out of habit. Throughout the play the humor was consistent and entertaining, and was enhanced by the intimacy of the black box theater.

The second play of the evening was the romantic "Love Letters," written by A.R. Gurney. "Love Letters" is the story of two wealthy friends from high-class families and their correspondence during their lifetimes through love letters. Although the play was originally intended to be played by two actors, in this production it was played by three sets of actors. The characters were played by junior Zoe Philip and freshman Raffi Sweet for the beginning of act one and two. The middle and end of the two acts were performed by senior Patrick Parhiala, sophomore David Fouhy, and freshmen Elisenda Cochin, and Lily Barrett.

The story was told by the two characters sitting on stage who simply recited their love letters. At first, the letters were simple "thank you" cards for birthday parties, but as the play continued the letters become more powerful and significant. The love letters revealed a relationship that changed over the years from childhood to adulthood. The usage of language in the play was also very interesting. The earlier love letters were written with 1950's slang, but the language eventually changed over the "years" to become more modern. The matters which the two characters discussed in the letters and the rebellious natures of the characters was almost reminiscent of J.D. Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Despite the fact that some might view the narrative form of the play as dull, "Love Letters" definitely succeeded in making the audience care about the characters. This was done simply by telling the story and not acting it out, which can be very impressive. The play is very simple and in the words of the playwright, "needs no theatre, no lengthy rehearsal, no special set, no memorization of lines, and no commitment from its two actors beyond the night of performance."

MATH TEAM • FROM PAGE 7

The year culminated in the Massachusetts State Meet, in which Lexington took first place. Regular team members for these meets included freshmen Sway Chen and Stephen Xu, sophomores Yuga Cohler and Daniel Fudenberg, junior Alina Griner, seniors David Iba, Jason Leung, Ben Pu, Sam Xu, and the four captains.

For the fifteenth straight year, a four-member team from LHS took 1st place at the WPI Invitational Math Meet competing against 85 of the top teams from all over New England. A. Chen, Wen, Cohler, and S. Chen each received a $1,000 scholarship. Wen earned a perfect score and won an additional $3,000 scholarship.

The future looks good for the math team, with some of its best members being underclassmen. The team will strive to continue its winning streak in coming years.

SPORTS

TENNIS • FROM PAGE 10

League.

Lexington won their next games until they got the opportunity for revenge on the Sachems, which finally came, but not without controversy. With the match resting upon the third singles game, Katz was on the court for Lexington with a lot at stake. With the game going back and forth, the Winchester player hit a shot down the line that was called out. Disagreeing with the call, the player and Winchester coach decided to appeal. The line-judge, a Winchester parent, reversed the call after almost ten minutes. From this point on Katz lost his momentum and was unable to gather himself, going on to lose the singles match-up as well as the whole showdown with Winchester. Despite this tough loss, Lexington bounced back by beating Watertown, Reading, and Burlington on their way to a 16-3 record.

The girls team got off to the same great start as the boys, winning their first six contests and climbing the ranks of the Middlesex League. Despite this early success, the Minutemen found themselves in second place in the Middlesex League as Burlington had started out red-hot, and had jumped out of the gates to an 8-0 record. This set the stage for a tough match-up with Burlington.

The first match of the season between the two dominant teams went to a very strong Burlington team that just wore the Minutemen down. Lexington showed their resiliency, however, by bouncing back with wins over Melrose and Stoneham. Coming into the final game of the season against Burlington, the girls had a record of 11-5, and were third place in the Middlesex league. This was a high intensity match, which had serious implications for the state tournament. Lexington came out with a lot of energy and was able to catch Burlington on their heels a little bit. This initial surge, however, fell short and the Minutemen ended up falling to the top ranked Burlington squad. In the end, this was a successful season for the girls in which they were able to qualify for the tournament and they look poised to make a run deep into it.

After strong seasons in which both teams were able to put together impressive records, the teams are looking to carry that momentum into the state tournament. Varsity boys tennis player Havdalla said, "We've been playing well, and I think we have the potential to go all the way." All in all, this was a very good season for each team that brought with it high hopes for what promises to be an exciting state tournament.

GIRLS TRACK • FROM PAGE 10

Amanda Sullivan in the 400m, junior Jess Batty in the 100m hurdles and triple jump, and senior Julie Croteau in the high jump. When all is said and done, Lexington is going to States with an astounding 21 representatives.

The only blemish on the girls' record was a 68-68 tie against Stoneham on April 12. Lexington swept the one mile run, with freshman Liz Kernan coming in first, junior Erin Kelly in second, and freshman Selena Lane coming in third. Junior Libby Mislan came in first place in the 400m with a time of 61.5 seconds, and Heymann blew her opponents out of the water with a 12 minutes 55 seconds 2-mile run.

In one of the most entertaining and hard fought battles of the season, Lexington defeated the Reading Rockets by a score of 69-62. Captain Ghazarian had an amazing throw of 33 ft. and 11.5 inches in the shot put, and Domings came in first in the long jump with a jump of 15 ft. and 6.25 in. In the 2-mile, Kelly and Heymann came in first and second with times of 12 minutes and 40 seconds and 12 minutes and 50 seconds respectively. This was one of the biggest wins of the season, and after this, the girls knew that no one would stop them on their quest for the title.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Say Anything: New Sound for a New Era

By Daniel Choi

With the proliferation of many tiresome punk rock and teenybopper garage bands, there are many reasons why one would pass Say Anything off as just another group that won't last. However, Say Anything has been stirring up quite a fan base since the release of their debut album, "Is a Real Boy" in August 2004.

Unlike much of today's prevalent emo music, Say Anything's songs are characterized by an upbeat, resonating tone. Say Anything's style can be categorized as punk rock with a unique spin; the band adds brighter melodies in place of the mainstream Blink 182-esque tone, thereby retaining an alternative sound without the gloom.

Say Anything has yet to fall into the trap of recycling old songs via slightly updated versions. Conversely, its music has a definite, even revolutionary, substance that is helping to catapult the rock genre away from the tarnished punk sound and into a more new-age era.

One of Say Anything's songs, "Admit It!" illustrates their effort to point out and remove themselves from the ironic, accidental conformity of non-conformers. Lead singer Max Bermis explains in this tune how efforts to veer from the "mainstream" culture can lead to a boomerang effect.

The songs' musical undercurrents, along with the band's own audible sound, are helping to set a trend in the rock scene. With their playfulness on and off the stage, the members of Say Anything are able to succeed as entertaining performers.

The band is always able to keep the mood upbeat, even when working and provoking the crowd with their comical and philosophical lyrics. In truth, Say Anything is fully capable of producing music that even non-conforming non-conformists will enjoy.

38th Annual Pops Astounds

By David Ganzi

Once again, Lexington High School pulled off another successful Pops concert. This year marked the thirty-eighth annual concert, and sported green and white theme colors. The gym, decorated with streamers, balloons, and ribbons, was transformed into a huge arena of music. The choruses were on one side, the bands and orchestras played on the center stage, and the audience filled up any other possible space available.

As usual, large tables each with two vases full of flowers were situated around the gymnasium for seating. While the musicians performed in the increasingly warm gym, family members and friends munched on cookies and brownies, sat back, and listened. The turnout was excellent - both nights were sold out.

To start the concert, the Repertory Orchestra played a piece from Lord of the Rings: the Two Towers, written by Howard Shore. They then performed the Pink Panther theme song and got much of the audience to hum along. Next, Mixed Chorus sang a folk song entitled "Go 'Way From My Window," and the Madrigals sang the favorite "I'm a Train" with great energy and even some added movements for an extra touch. Concert Choir also sang two beautiful folk songs and a spiritual, "Deep River" with the Madrigals.

Chorus director Brian O'Connell, pleased with the large range of pieces performed, said he was "amazed at the level of talent demonstrated by all of the groups." The Percussion Ensemble roused the crowd with their rendition of "Walk Like An Egyptian" and Symphonic Band played a series of songs including a conglomeration of 36 famous songs into one piece called "Instant Concert." Freshman Jonathan Wan explained with enthusiasm prior to his performance, "I love 'Instant Concert'!"

On Thursday night, the Honors Orchestra played two pieces including the ever-familiar "Carmen." Friday night was the highlight, however, as it featured one of this year's concerto competition winners. Junior Nick Kim was a crowd favorite, displaying his talent in "Rhapsody in Blue" on the piano. The other three concerto competition winners, juniors Miika Voutilainen-Gregg, Malcolm Campbell and sophomore Yuga Cohler were accompanied by the orchestra in the concerto concert in March.

SPORTS

Janet Yeung and Alina Griner give high-fives on the court

Tennis Has High Hopes

By Stuart Easton

The LHS boys and girls tennis teams have had successful seasons this year, as both were able to qualify for their respective tournaments. The boys team posted an impressive 16-3 record overall, with a combination of good singles play by seniors Tom Neumeier, David Iba, sophomore Alex Katz, junior Nick Kim and great doubles play by junior Stas Moroz and senior Chris Baker, along with junior Robbie Havdalla and senior Ben Guth.

For the girls, making the tournament was a team effort. Everyone was able to play well and there was great play from all spots. The singles players were senior Olivia Chuang, juniors Amy Greenberg, Courtney Blum, and sophomore Caitlin Savoy. Senior Hanna Kuznetsov and junior Alina Griner as well as senior Kyle Larson and junior Rachel Kase made up the doubles teams, along with juniors Janet Yeung, Jen Kozin, Sandy Wu, sophomore Emily Johnson, and Laura Dickinson.

The boys team got off to a fast start with six consecutive wins, as they were able to easily fill the spots of injured players with the confidence that the replacement would step up his game. The Minutemen sailed through the Middlesex league until they ran into the Winchester Sachems, a showdown between the top two teams in the league. In the end, it was a 3-2 defeat for the Minutemen, and despite a valiant effort they dropped to second place in the Middlesex

... PAGE 9

Boys Track Beats Reading, Wins Title

By Larry Schweitzer

The Lexington boys track team had an excellent season with a number of players who qualified for States, many solid meets against other Middlesex rivals, and even the League title. These accomplishments, however, pale in comparison to what the boys accomplished against Reading.

Reading, the perennial powerhouse of outdoor track, had not lost a single meet in nearly 30 years, and had not lost a meet to Lexington in even longer. Still, Lexington was fielding one of their best teams in years, and there were murmurings amongst teammates that the impossible could happen. When the day came, Lexington stood up to the challenge, and held off Reading by a score of 85-51, prompting Coach Bill Babcock to get on his hands and knees, and literally bow to his victorious team.

Lexington was able to win the match thanks to not only their typical strong performances in the track events, but also by scoring some valuable points in field events, where Reading would normally dominate. Junior Jeff Churchill probably had the biggest upset of the day when he took first in the javelin with a throw of 139 feet and 9 inches. Lexington also saw strong performances from seniors Jon Cunha and Shyam Vimal in the hurdles and jump events, sophomore Darius Walker in the 100 and 200 meters, and junior Willi Ballenthin, seniors Paul Morris and Archie Abrams in the long distance events.

This win seemingly energized the Minutemen, as they shot through the rest of the season with huge wins against Belmont, Wakefield, Watertown, and many others. At the end of the season, Lexington was 9-0, and had wrapped up the Middlesex League title.

This was a particularly satisfying season for the seniors who graduate this year, as they had the chance to go out on top. All year long, these seniors powered the team with their awesome talents and clear-headed leadership. Senior captains Cunha, Morris, and Abrams will certainly be missed, as will the rest of the hard-working graduating members of the team.

The Minutemen need not fret, however, as they have many strong underclassmen who will certainly step up next year. Such stars as juniors Ballenthin, Seth Garro, sophomores Walker, Alex Lach, Brian Longo, Mike Paschal, and Dave Brown have already done well this year, and will probably improve over the summer. They better do well, because the attitude on the team is that now that Reading is out of the way, anything is possible.

Said one member of the team, "If we can beat Reading, we can do anything! Now that we're league champs, it would be a letdown to lose it next year." Here's to hoping that the Minutemen continue their dominance in the coming seasons, and continue to run with the tenacity and gusto that they ran with this year.

Boys Lacrosse Makes its Way to the Top

By Arjun Gokhale

The boys lacrosse team got off to a slow start this year but won when it counted, capturing the Middlesex League title for the second straight year with a 12-5 record and a perfect 9-0 league record. After starting the year with a tough loss against Beverly, and dropping to 2-5 after losing to Andover, the Minutemen rattled off 10 straight wins which included 2 big wins over rival Winchester. They will be looking for revenge on Billerica, who they lost to earlier in the season, in the first round of the playoffs.

The team has been anchored by a stellar offense comprised mainly of juniors. Juniors Freddy Janey, Luke Dilillo, Drew Smith and Dave Robinson add firepower to an offense that looks to be strong next year as well. Senior co-captain Dylan Oteri leads the team in points and contributes strong play as well as leadership to the team.

The leadership abilities of Oteri and senior co-captain Mike Fentin have made the boys a resilient squad, as they were able to overcome injuries to starting goalie junior Robby Bleakley and junior defenseman Alex Abramo. In each case, an underclassmen was called up and expected to produce right away. Freshman Alex Sullivan was thrown into his varsity games just a few weeks into the season and filled in at goalie well. Sophomore Andy Alspaugh was recalled from JV multiple times throughout the year and filled in solidly for Abramo.

The Minutemen lost their first playoff game to Chelmsford last year, but they're hoping things change this weekend at Billerica. Although they feature a young squad with only 8 seniors, the boys are confident they can win this time as they lost by only one in a come-from-behind win by Billerica during the regular season.

Girls Track Snags Title

By Mike Grossi

For the first time ever, the LHS boys and girls spring track team beat their arch rivals Reading in the same year. The girls had an amazing year, going 8-0-1 on the season and culminating in the winning of the league title.

Whenever a spark was needed, one of the veterans on the team gave them one. Seniors Trisha Domings, Marilyn Heymann, Manneh Ghazarian and Hilary Mislan were this year's captains. In their final year at LHS, they were able to capture the coveted Middlesex League Girls title.

Heymann and Domings qualified for States in the 2 mile and the long jump respectively, but the captains were not the only main contributors to the team's success. Among the other qualifiers were junior Erin Kelly in the 2-mile, sophomore Julia Sun in the 200m, junior Sharikka Finley-Moise in the 100m, junior Libby Mislan in the 400m, junior

... PAGE 9